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PP RUEHCHI RUEHDT RUEHHM
DE RUEHJA #3347 0750147
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 160147Z MAR 06
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1109
INFO RUEHXS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS PRIORITY
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 9206
RUEHDT/AMEMBASSY DILI PRIORITY 0737
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 0703
RUEHHM/AMCONSUL HO CHI MINH CITY PRIORITY 0046
RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA PRIORITY 0011
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 7332
RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0417

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 003347

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SECSTATE FOR EAP/IET, PRM AND DRL

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/16/2016

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SUBJECT: UNHCR CONFIDENT CUBAN CITIZEN TREATED FAIRLY

REF: JAKARTA 02314

Classified By: LISSA MCATEE, REASON 1.4 (B) AND (D).

11. (C) UNHCR/Jakarta told us on March 13 that it remains confident that Ramon Ballesteros Escobar, a Cuban doctor who fled from his assignment in East Timor, will be treated fairly (reftel). Shinji Kubo, head of Protective Services at UNCHR in Jakarta said that no one, including the Indonesian government, has pressured UNCHR regarding Escobar. Indra, director of Enforcement at the Indonesian Immigration Department, assured UNHCR that the GOI would not act without the high commission's recommendation. Kubo explained that the Indonesian government does not want to politicize the case and is therefore "putting it on us (UNHCR)" to handle the matter.

12. (SBU) Escobar remains in immigration detention in Kupang, West Timor. UNHCR is reviewing his case, and verifying information with UNHCR in Washington D.C. and Geneva before they issue a recommendation. In the meantime, UNHCR is trying to keep the case quiet because they say there are approximately one hundred Cuban doctors in East Timor that may look to UNHCR's decision in the Escobar case as a signal to follow suit. We will continue to follow developments.
PASCOE